

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

CD NO. 25X1A

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 16 MAY 50

SUBJECT Personnel and Production at CKD (Cesko-moravska Kolben - Danek); Plans for Decentralization

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO

25X1A

25X1A

25X1

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Heavy Mechanical Eng.
Plants

25X1

25X1

1. CKD (Ceskomoravska Kolben-Danek), National Corporation, consists of factories at Liben, Vysocany, Blansko, Modrany (two), Slany, Decin, and Ceska Lira, and of additional smaller factories which had been confiscated and nationalized.

25X1

2.

3. Production activities at CKD factories are as follows:

- a. It is rumored that preparations for the construction of a new heavy tank, heavier than any of Russian make, are under way in the secret military section.
- b. The Liben factory has delivered fifty tanks to Ethiopia. It is also engaged in producing ten locomotives with tenders for shipment to Turkey.
- c. The Vysocany factory is producing mainly electric motors.

CLASSIFICATION		DISTRIBUTION	
STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		NSRB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		FBI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

CONFIDENTIAL

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. 604
No Change in Class. ☐
☒ Declassified
Class. Changed To: TS S C
Auth: RR 70-2
Date: 8 JUN 1978
By:

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1A

- d. At the Blansko factory the largest size of castings for turbines, machinery for alcohol distilleries and sugar refineries, etc. is being produced.
- e. It is reported that production is beginning at Zbrojovka Brno on a new heavy air-cooled machine gun, having a much greater muzzle velocity than any previous machine gun. The prototype of this gun was tested this year.
4. Two employees of CKD (the head of the standardization section who is a member of the People's Party, and a member of the "provozni" committee who is a Communist) have confirmed the fact that preparations are being made for decentralization of the existing great national corporations, such as CKD, Skoda, and Zbrojovka. Ultimately, each factory will be an independent undertaking with its own production management. This plan originated with the KSC. Work on such decentralization is already proceeding at a feverish pace. From the technical angle, the person in charge of these preparations is the director of the firm involved; from the personnel point of view, this individual is the "cadre trusty" (kadrový důvěrník). The latter is appointed by the KSC and must not have any family bourgeois taint.
5. The purpose of this decentralization is to obtain easier control of the working class, since it has been observed that large groups of workers express their discontent and aggressiveness more often than do smaller groups. By decentralization the Communists promise greater productivity, although some experts believe that decentralization will result in harmful effects such as extension of clerical personnel, increased attendance at meetings, and uncontrolled purchasing facilities. Decentralization contradicts, of course, the Communist theory of creating huge combines with centralization of production, of purchases and sales, and of planning. It is obvious that this economics concept is to be subordinated to politics in an effort to counteract any tendency of the working class to be rebellious and aggressive.

CONFIDENTIAL